

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### CELEBRATING COACH DAVE BAILEY'S LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENTS

**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Coach Dave Bailey on his recent induction to the Bedford County, Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame.

Coach Bailey took the struggling Tussey Mountain High School boys basketball program and turned it into a 42-year dominating force. With Bailey at the reigns, the Tussey Mountain Titans had an incredible winning record of 753–328. Over this period of time, his teams qualified for district playoffs 36 times, played in the district finals 21 times, and captured nine district titles. The Titans did not lose a game on their home court in Saxton for 55 consecutive games, stretching from 2006 through 2011, which rightfully resulted in their gymnasium being nicknamed “The Terror Dome.”

Coach Bailey was without a doubt a staple in the Saxton community, as over 600 high school athletes have played for Tussey Mountain under his direction, and 17 of these players achieved 1,000 point careers. When Bailey was not coaching basketball, he also coached track and field and golf for Tussey Mountain, further impacting the lives of more student athletes. Retired now, he has a little more time to spend time with his wife and children. He enjoys golfing, all sports, and naturally giving advice to the boys basketball program.

Today I am honored to recognize Dave Bailey for his exceptional coaching career and his many accomplishments. His impact on the community has been too great to put into words, and he has represented Central Pennsylvania and Bedford County with great distinction.

### TRIBUTE TO THE VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the families across the country that have been touched by gun violence. I am heartbroken, angry, and dismayed over this week's shootings in Baton Rouge, Falcon Heights, and Dallas. Unfortunately, these events are all too common in communities across the country. Every day, 91 Americans lose their lives to gun violence.

The federal government can and must do more to make our communities safer. We should use California's gun safety laws as an example.

California just enacted legislation to ban the possession of magazines that hold more than 10 bullets.

California already bans most assault-style weapons.

California has stricter background checks than most states.

California mandates a cooling off period after a gun purchase.

And, California requires a background check to buy bullets.

Let's follow California's lead.

Congress should pass “No Fly, No Buy.”

Congress should vote on mandatory background checks.

Congress should ban assault weapons.

Let's have the courage to stand up to the powerful gun lobby.

Two weeks ago, I was proud to join the historic sit-in to demand congressional action on bipartisan gun safety laws.

The sit-in was widely supported by millions of law abiding Americans, including responsible gun owners, who want Congress to enact commonsense gun legislation.

Instead, Speaker RYAN has pushed forward a watered-down bill that already failed in the Republican-led Senate. This is not a real attempt at preventing future gun violence.

No more moments of silence. Instead I call for moments of action by this legislative body. For victims of gun violence and their families and for our children and grandchildren, let's do something that will make our communities safer.

### 400 YEARS OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY COMMISSION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 5, 2016*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4539, the “400 Years of African-American History Commission Act,” which will develop and carry out activities that commemorate the arrival of Africans in English colonies in 1619 at Point Comfort, Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, today it is difficult to imagine there once was a time in our country when African-Americans were owned, disrespected, and treated as less than second-class citizens for hundreds of years.

However, since the 1960's we have witnessed social and economic revolutions that have transformed our country for the better and brought about the greatest reduction in economic and social inequality among Americans in history.

H.R. 4539 will create programs that highlight the undeniable impact that slavery, de jure segregation, Jim Crow Laws, and the Black Codes had in creating and mandating systemic racism and inequality.

The Commission will plan programs that acknowledge the impacts that marred the social, political, and economic progress of African-Americans in the United States.

The Commission encourages the collaboration of organizations that honor the great con-

tributions of African-American activists, leaders, writers, and artists.

H.R. 4539 encourages the collaboration and participation of civic, economic, historical, educational, patriotic, artistic, and religious organizations to come together to celebrate anniversary activities.

The contributions of African-Americans to our great nation is an essential part of our history and should be celebrated.

Tribute must be paid to the trailblazers, pioneers, heroes, and leaders, the countless number of well-known and unsung heroes whose contributions have helped our nation become a more perfect union.

The African-American History Commission will help us honor those who have come before us, and pay forward to future generations by addressing what is the number one issue for all American families today: preserving the American promise of economic opportunity for all.

To accomplish this, the Commission will assist non-profit organizations, localities, and states to further the commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Africans in English colonies by allowing grant funding for the development of programs.

The Commission is also authorized to provide funding for research and academic and public policy organizations to publish and distribute information about the arrival of Africans in the United States and their contribution to this country.

It took hard work, courage, patience, determination, and most of all, an unwavering faith that America could live up to the true meaning of its creed.

Mr. Speaker, enacting H.R. 4539 and establishing the African-American History Commission will lay the foundation for the next generation of groundbreaking activists, leaders, scientists, writers and artists to continue contributing to the greatness of America.

Social progress and justice does not always come easy or overnight but with commitment, determination, and perseverance, progress can be made and barriers can be broken.

It is through our work in creating possibilities and programs for today and future generations that we best honor the accomplishments and legacy of our predecessors.

Through the establishment of the 400 Years of African-American History Commission, that is made possible.

I urge all Members to join me in supporting H.R. 4539.

### TRIBUTE TO IRENE AND RICHARD SWANSON

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Irene and Richard Swanson of Council Bluffs, Iowa, on the

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on May 19, 2016. They were married at St. Patrick's Church in Missouri Valley, Iowa.

Irene and Richard's lifelong commitment to each other and their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

I commend this great couple on their 60th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Irene and Richard Swanson on this momentous occasion.

#### SCREWORM AND THE ZIKA VIRUS CORRELATION

#### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an example of the significance of federally sponsored scientific research.

I would like to especially commend two scientists, Dr. Edward Knipping and Dr. Raymond C. Bushland, and their research entitled "The Sex Life of the Screwworm Fly". These two distinguished individuals conducted extensive research in the 20th Century on a devastating disease in the cattle industry caused by the then-infamous Screwworm Fly.

Through perseverance and dedication, the researchers ultimately discovered a novel method to eradicate the Screwworm Fly. Sterilized male specimens of the fly were released into the wild, overwhelming the native Screwworm Fly population and eventually negating the threat to cattle across the Southeast.

Despite heavy disapproval and ridicule from some of their colleagues, the \$250,000 in research conducted by Dr. Knipping and Dr. Bushland collectively saved the U.S. cattle industry billions of dollars, earning them the Golden Goose Award. This immense societal benefit from such a small public investment is why they will be honored with the Golden Goose Award this September.

The research put into "The Sex Life of the Screwworm Fly" is a great example of the impact federally funded scientific research can make and exemplifies the purpose of the Golden Goose Award.

Regarding current epidemics, Dr. Knipping and Dr. Bushland's research may possibly provide creative solutions as we try to control the transmission of the Zika virus from the Aedes mosquito today. In order to confront and overcome modern health challenges, we must be mindful of the importance of federally funded research, and support creative initiatives whenever possible.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF CHARLOTTE NURGE

#### HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Charlotte Nurge, a constituent of mine who passed away at the age of 95 on June 29 of this year in Ashburn, Virginia.

Charlotte was born in New Jersey and moved to Virginia in the 1940s. Since the first day she moved to Loudoun County, Charlotte worked tirelessly to improve the lives of her neighbors. Beginning her life of public service in the administrative offices of Langley High School, Charlotte never complained about working long hours.

Known as the "Mayor of Ashby Ponds", the Ashburn retirement community in which she lived, Charlotte gave more than 3,300 volunteer hours of service to her community since the 1990s. She worked tirelessly to enhance benefits for seniors in my district through her work on the Loudoun County Tax Relief program, and I worked closely with her as chairperson of the Commission on Aging. Always willing to lend a hand to a neighbor in need, Charlotte was an irreplaceable pillar of our community, as noted by her regular attendance at the Loudoun County Board meetings well into her 90s.

Charlotte will be sincerely missed by all those who had the pleasure of knowing her both on a personal and a professional level. I know that she has impacted many lives over the years, and we are all grateful for having known her. She is survived by two daughters, Barbara and Catherine; five grandchildren, John, Michael, Monday, Tom and Bridget; and six great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of, and bidding farewell to, Charlotte Nurge. May she rest in peace, and her family be comforted.

#### IN HONOR OF DEREK AND DYLAN THOMSON FOR THEIR EFFORTS ON THE CONNOLLY TOUGH FUND

#### HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Derek and Dylan Thomson, both of whom are New Hampshire residents who have committed themselves to cycling across the United States to raise awareness and funds for the Connolly Tough Fund. The Thomson brothers have dedicated themselves to biking from San Francisco, California to Seabrook, New Hampshire, a 4,500 trek in

order to raise awareness for ALS as well as funds for their former principal, Gene Connolly, who was recently diagnosed with the disease. It is with great pride and respect that I join others in congratulating and thanking them for their tremendous efforts.

The Connolly Tough Fund was started in September 2014 to help Gene Connolly's family with expenses and have since risen over \$85,000. Derek and Dylan Thomson hoped to raise an additional \$20,000 through fundraising efforts throughout their bike ride. At this time, they have risen over \$14,000.

The Connolly Tough Fund has transferred their focus to supporting a scholarship fund in Gene's name. This decision follows Mr. Connolly's decision to retire from Concord High School. This retirement ends Mr. Connolly's 38-year public school career in New Hampshire, serving students like the Thomson brothers selflessly and tirelessly. While the fund has transferred its attention, the Thomson brothers are committing themselves to aiding Mr. Connolly, directly, through their fundraising program.

Derek and Dylan's journey is a personal and selfless act. Gene Connolly aided Derek in finding his passion for filmmaking and mentored him through his college experience at both Keene State College and Emerson University. For this, Derek is determined to "pay back Connolly for his generosity and inspiration." Derek has created films for Mr. Connolly and his family and became inspired to help monetarily, with his brother, through this bike riding effort.

Dylan, also a recent graduate, is completing this ride before heading to University of New Hampshire this fall. The brothers started their cross-country trek on May 21st and hope to finish by mid-July. They should be commended for their tenacity and commitment.

Derek and Dylan Thomson have been tireless in their commitment to the Connolly Tough Fund and have improved the Connolly family's life tremendously. Their work, both in Concord and on their bikes have helped Gene Connolly and his family throughout this transformative experience. As Mr. Connolly stated in a film, made by Derek, these brothers are helping "to the best of their ability." Derek and Dylan Thomson are role models for all of us and I applaud them for their efforts.

H.R. 5456

#### HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following extraneous materials on H.R. 5456, the Family First Prevention Services Act of 2016:

NORTH AMERICAN COUNCIL  
ON ADOPTABLE CHILDREN,  
St. Paul, MN, June 14, 2016.

Hon. KEVIN BRADY,  
*Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,  
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

Hon. ORRIN HATCH,  
*Chairman, Committee on Finance, U.S. Senate,  
Washington DC.*

Hon. VERN BUCHANAN,  
*Chairman, Human Resources Subcommittee,  
Committee on Ways and Means, House of  
Representatives, Washington, DC.*

Hon. SANDER LEVIN,  
*Ranking Member, Committee on Ways and  
Means, House of Representatives, Wash-  
ington, DC.*

Hon. RON WYDEN,  
*Ranking Member, Committee on Finance, U.S.  
Senate, Washington DC.*

Hon. LLOYD DOGGETT,  
*Ranking Member, Human Resources Sub-  
committee, Committee on Ways and Means,  
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMEN BRADY AND HATCH, RANK-  
ING MEMBERS LEVIN AND WYDEN, AND CHAIR-  
MAN BUCHANAN AND RANKING MEMBER DOG-  
GETT: The North American Council on Adopt-  
able Children (NACAC) is pleased to support  
the Family First Prevention Services Act,  
and we look forward to working with you to  
ensure passage and implementation of this  
important legislation. NACAC is a national  
organization dedicated to the belief that  
children and youth need and deserve a per-  
manent family.

I want to particularly highlight three pro-  
visions of the Act:

We were glad to see that the act speci-  
fically mentions that Title IV-E will be able  
to cover preventive services for adoptive and  
guardianship families, along with birth fami-  
lies and relative caregivers. We have known  
far too many adoptive families who have  
been told that their children must reenter  
foster care to access services. In some of  
these cases, adoptive families must be  
charged with abuse and neglect for their  
children to receive the services they need.  
The Act will expand the availability of such  
services and reflects the reality that many  
families, including adoptive families, need  
targeted, effective services to meet their  
children's needs and prevent foster care  
entry.

The emphasis on family-based placements  
rather than group care is something that  
NACAC has long supported. We firmly be-  
lieve that far too many children are placed  
in group care for no therapeutic reason,  
which research suggests can harm children.  
We also know that placement with relatives  
or foster families increases the likelihood  
that children will achieve permanency,  
whether through reunification, kin place-  
ment, guardianship, or adoption. Group care  
has a place in the child welfare system when  
it is therapeutic and effective, never as a  
convenient default.

Finally, we are pleased to see that the  
Government Accounting Office will study  
and report on how states are reinvesting the  
funds they receive as a result of the Fos-  
tering Connections Act's expansion of Title  
IV-E adoption assistance eligibility. We  
know that too few families currently have  
access to needed post-adoption and post-  
guardianship services, and think these rein-  
vested funds can be a valuable tool to sup-  
port families post-permanency.

We are also pleased to see the reauthoriza-  
tion of Title IV-B and the Adoption and  
Guardianship Incentive Program. The incen-  
tive program has been an important source  
of funding for support services for adoptive  
and guardian families. In addition, we  
strongly support increased investment in  
services to prevent foster placements for all

families, the supports for kinship care pro-  
viders, and the expansion of the National  
Electronic Interstate Compact Enterprise.  
We have seen through the pilot that the use  
of such a system will speed placements of  
children in foster care and adoption.

We acknowledge that the Act would delay  
the implementation of expanded IV-E eligi-  
bility to children under age four, but we be-  
lieve that the bill's provisions are so impor-  
tant that we are able to support this offset.

We will offer support in implementation of  
the Act to ensure that the post-adoption  
services in the bill are available to families  
who need them and that states are investing  
in efforts to recruit, develop, and support  
foster and kin families for children who  
would otherwise be in group care. We will  
also review the GAO study to ensure that  
states are investing as required in post-adop-  
tion and post-guardianship services.

Thank you again for your support of these  
valuable improvements in our child welfare  
system. Please let me know if you need any-  
thing from us as you move forward with the  
Act.

Sincerely,

MARY BOO,  
*Executive Director.*

THE NATIONAL  
CRITTENTON FOUNDATION,  
Portland, OR, June 14, 2016.

Hon. KEVIN BRADY,  
*Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,  
House of Representatives.*

Hon. ORRIN HATCH,  
*Chairman, Committee on Finance, U.S. Senate.*

Hon. VERN BUCHANAN,  
*Chairman, Human Resources Subcommittee,  
Committee on Ways and Means, House of  
Representatives.*

Hon. SANDY LEVIN,  
*Ranking Member, Committee on Ways and  
Means, House of Representatives.*

Hon. RON WYDEN,  
*Ranking Member, Committee on Finance, U.S.  
Senate.*

Hon. LLOYD DOGGETT,  
*Ranking Member, Human Resources Sub-  
committee, Committee on Ways and Means,  
House of Representatives.*

DEAR WAYS AND MEANS AND SENATE FI-  
NANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN BRADY AND  
HATCH, RANKING MEMBERS LEVIN AND WYDEN  
AND HUMAN RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR-  
MAN BUCHANAN AND RANKING MEMBER DOG-  
GETT: On behalf of The National Crittenton  
Foundation, I am pleased to support the  
Family First Prevention Services Act (H.R.  
5456) introduced today by House Ways and  
Means Human Resources Subcommittee  
Chairman Vern Buchanan (R-FL) and joined  
by eleven other bi-partisan original co-spon-  
sors. We understand that the development of  
this proposed legislation has been a long and  
complex process, and believe that this bipar-  
tisan compromise represents a positive step  
toward reducing the unnecessary reliance on  
group care while also improving critical pre-  
vention services for children in or at risk of  
entering the child welfare system.

Headquartered in Portland, Oregon,  
TNCF's mission is to advance the self-em-  
powerment, health, economic security and  
civic engagement of girls and young women  
impacted by violence, childhood adversity  
and trauma. TNCF and its 26-member Fam-  
ily of Agencies currently serve 31 states and  
the District of Columbia and have more than  
130 years of expertise in delivering the high-  
est quality of gender and culturally-specific,  
trauma-informed, strengths-based and devel-  
opmentally-appropriate services to girls and  
young women involved in the child welfare,  
juvenile justice and other child and family  
service systems.

Among the many populations of young  
people it serves, the Crittenton Family of

Agencies has a particular interest and exper-  
tise in providing cutting-edge supports for  
pregnant and parenting girls and young  
women, both those who are at risk of child  
welfare involvement and those already in the  
foster care system. As you know, these  
young women represent a relatively small  
percentage of the overall population of chil-  
dren in foster care, but they face a number of  
critical challenges, most notably the unnec-  
essary separation from or permanent re-  
moval of their own children. When pregnant  
and parenting youth do not receive the com-  
prehensive range of services they need to  
parent effectively, the result is often long-  
term, dual-generation involvement in the  
child welfare system.

The proposed legislation supports the  
young people we serve in several important  
ways. Most importantly, it allows federal  
Title IV-E foster care funding to be used for  
time-limited, evidence-based services for  
those young people who are at imminent risk  
of entering or re-entering foster care, preg-  
nant and parenting youth in foster care and  
parents and kinship caregivers of children at  
risk.

Expanding states' ability to direct critical  
dollars towards prevention will help young  
people who seek help from our agencies ac-  
cess services in the community, especially  
those young parents who need basic commu-  
nity services and supports to stay together  
with their children. In addition, the elimi-  
nation of time limits for family reunifica-  
tion services will be extremely helpful in  
providing ongoing support for young children  
after they have returned home to their par-  
ents, including parents who are teens.

The National Crittenton Foundation is  
also supportive of the proposed approach to  
eliminating inappropriate group care. As you  
know, our agencies strongly believe that  
children belong in families whenever pos-  
sible. They work extensively with state and  
local child welfare agencies, other commu-  
nity-based organizations, and families to  
provide a range of services—from prevention  
to post-permanency services—to help chil-  
dren return home or transition to kinship  
care.

Our agencies also understand first hand  
that children are too often placed in poorly  
regulated group settings without compre-  
hensive assessments and timely and clinically  
appropriate placements. By clearly defining  
Qualified Residential Treatment Programs  
(QRTP) and requiring timely and com-  
prehensive assessments and careful ongoing  
court review, we believe that this legislation  
balances the need to address the treatment  
needs of young people and reduce the over-  
reliance on group home placements. In addi-  
tion, the provisions to support young preg-  
nant and parenting teens will help ensure  
that those young women who do not have  
supportive family placement options or kin-  
ship resources are able to access the services  
they need before and after the birth of their  
children.

Finally, TNCF is pleased to see the addi-  
tional reporting requirements for children  
who are not placed in family foster care  
homes. Accurate data collection on residen-  
tial treatment, hospital-settings and those  
individuals who are pregnant and parenting  
will be instrumental in helping our agencies  
better meet the needs of young people by  
identifying gaps in services and supports.

Thank you all for your strong leadership  
and bipartisan coordination on these impor-  
tant issues and for your ongoing commit-  
ment to children and their families.

Sincerely,

JEANNETTE PAI-ESPINOSA,  
*President.*

CATHOLIC CHARITIES USA,

June 21, 2016.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development and Catholic Charities USA, we write in support of H.R. 5456, the Family First Prevention Services Act of 2016.

In his recent Apostolic Exhortation, *Amoris Laetitia*, Pope Francis wrote:

The choice of adoption and foster care expresses a particular kind of fruitfulness in the marriage experience. . . . In the light of those situations where a child is desired at any cost, as a right for one's self-fulfilment, adoption and foster care, correctly understood, manifest an important aspect of parenting and the raising of children. They make people aware that children, whether natural, adoptive or taken in foster care, are persons in their own right who need to be accepted, loved and cared for, and not just brought into this world. The best interests of the child should always underlie any decision in adoption and foster care (no. 180).

The Church thus recognizes and values the often heroic witness of those who provide loving foster care to children in need. At the same time, we understand that, where possible, meaningful support for families experiencing serious challenges can be critically important. For some, well-timed assistance can help keep families together, strengthening child outcomes and building toward long-term thriving.

Catholic Charities has extensive experience, both in supporting families with mental health care, substance abuse treatment and parenting skills training, and in providing foster care support. Last year alone over 11,000 children received foster care support and over 1,500 children were adopted from foster care programs through Catholic Charities supported programs.

Given our deep understanding and concern for family and our breadth of experience in helping parents in need, we urge you to pass H.R. 5456. Among the commendable provisions are:

Resources to assist parents with mental health, substance abuse or parenting skill issues to increase opportunities for children to remain in their homes where safe to do so;

Increased priority for placing children with other family members or in family foster settings;

Funding for evidence-based services to prevent child abuse and neglect related to substance abuse;

Additional support for the transition of foster children into adulthood.

As Saint John Paul II remarked, "As the family goes, so goes the nation, and so goes the whole world in which we live" (homily, Perth, Australia, November 30, 1986). The importance of supporting parents, children and families by improving the foster care system is critical for the good of our nation. Please support H.R. 5456.

Sincerely yours,

MOST REVEREND THOMAS  
G. WENSKI,  
*Archbishop of Miami,*  
*Chairman,*

*Committee on Domestic Justice and Human  
Development.*

SR. DONNA MARKHAM, OP,  
PH.D.,  
*President & CEO,*  
*Catholic Charities USA.*

Hon. PAUL RYAN,  
*Speaker of the House,*  
*House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*  
Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
*Minority Leader,*  
*House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE RYAN AND MINORITY LEADER PELOSI: As organizations representing advocates for children, youth and families, public and private providers, foster parents, adoptive parents, kinship caregivers and alumni of foster care, we are writing in support of the bipartisan, bicameral Family First Prevention Services Act, H.R. 5456. This legislation represents an historic step forward by better aligning federal child welfare funding with improved outcomes and goals for children and families who come into contact with the child welfare system. Over the decades Congress has approved many bipartisan, bicameral child welfare bills to better meet the needs of our most vulnerable children and families, and the Family First Prevention Services Act continues to make important gains for children.

We applaud the historic step the Act takes to increase federal investments in prevention to keep more children safely with their parents or family caregivers and out of foster care. The Act would allow funds under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act, now used primarily for out-of-home care for children, to be used for quality mental health and substance abuse prevention and treatment services and in-home parent skill-based programs. Requirements that these new services be evidence-based and trauma-informed, along with data reporting on performance outcomes, helps to ensure the quality of and accountability for services provided. These and other provisions in the Act also recognize the current challenges created by the opioid and heroin crises in many states.

The Family First Prevention Services Act over time also will take important steps to ensure children who need foster care will be placed in the least restrictive setting appropriate to their needs, by targeting federal dollars only on children in family-foster homes or residential settings for children and youth with special treatment needs or those in special circumstances, such as pregnant and parenting teens or older youth in independent living settings. The Act builds on activities in a number of states to preserve group care for children with special treatment needs.

The Act includes a number of other important changes to help improve outcomes for children and families. It continues to recognize the special role grandparents and other relatives play when they step in to care for children when their parents cannot and the supports relative caregivers need; requires states to have a plan to track and prevent child maltreatment fatalities; addresses the special needs of pregnant and parenting teens and protections for their children; promotes permanent families for children by extending adoption and guardianship incentives, enhancing interstate placements of children, and ensuring appropriate investments in post-adoption services; continues the Court Improvement Program; and offers increased supports to help older youth transition from foster care to adulthood.

Children and society pay a high cost when current systems fail to adequately address the needs of the children who come to the attention of our child welfare systems. We believe the specific changes proposed will go far in encouraging state and local child welfare agencies, private providers, courts, and advocates for children and families, including those who have been involved in the child welfare system, to work together to

achieve significant change for children over the next decade.

The Family First Prevention Services Act will truly benefit vulnerable children and families who come to the attention of the child welfare system. We urge strong bipartisan support of H.R. 5456. Thank you.

Sincerely,

National Organizations:

Adoption Exchange Association  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Psychological Association  
Association of University Centers on Disabilities  
Center for Native American Youth  
Center for the Study of Social Policy  
Child Care Aware® of America  
Children and Family Futures  
Children's Home Society of America  
Children's Hospital Association  
Children's Rights  
Children's Advocacy Institute  
Children's Defense Fund  
Children's Leadership Council  
CLASP  
Coalition on Human Needs  
CSH (Corporation for Supportive Housing)  
Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption  
Every Child Matters  
First Focus Campaign for Children  
Foster Family-based Treatment Association  
FosterClub  
Generations United  
Healthy Teen Network  
Human Rights Project for Girls (Rights4Girls)  
Juvenile Law Center  
National African American Drug Policy Coalition, Inc.  
National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds  
National Association for Children of Alcoholics  
National Association for Children's Behavioral Health  
National Association of Counsel for Children  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Association of Social Workers  
National Center on Adoption and Permanency  
National Center on Child Welfare and Housing  
National Center on Shared Leadership  
National Child Abuse Coalition  
National Children's Alliance  
National Family Preservation Network  
National Foster Parent Association  
National Indian Child Welfare Association  
National Kinship Alliance for Children  
North American Council on Adoptable Children  
Parents Anonymous Inc.  
Ray E. Helfer Society  
Strengthening Families All Across America  
The Dalton Daley Group  
The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy  
The National Crittenton Foundation  
Think of Us  
Voice for Adoption  
Youth Law Center  
Youth Villages  
ZERO TO THREE  
State Organizations:  
Adoptive and Foster Families of Maine, Inc. and the Kinship Program  
AAJ Research & Evaluation (Florida)  
Arizona's Children Association  
CASA Youth Advocates (Pennsylvania)  
Child and Family Services of New Hampshire  
Children & Families First (Delaware)  
Children Awaiting Parents (New York)  
Children's Action Alliance (Arizona)  
Children's Home + Aid (Illinois)  
Children's Home Society of North Carolina  
Children's Advocacy Alliance (Nevada)

Children's Defense Fund—California  
 Children's Defense Fund—Minnesota  
 Children's Defense Fund—Mississippi  
 Children's Defense Fund—New York  
 Children's Defense Fund—Texas  
 Children's Hospital of Wisconsin  
 Citizens' Committee for Children of New York, Inc.

Connecticut Voices for Children  
 Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch (North Dakota)  
 Florida's Children First, Inc.  
 Foster Adopt Connect (Missouri and Kansas)  
 Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota  
 Lutheran Social Services of Indiana  
 Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange  
 Massachusetts Law Reform Institute  
 Partners for Our Children (Washington)  
 The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
 The Children's Partnership (California)  
 University of California Davis Guardian Professions Program  
 Voices for Children in Nebraska  
 Voices for Ohio's Children  
 Voices for Virginia's Children  
 YMCA of San Diego County, Kinship Support Program

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

##### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$19,343,541,768,823.97. We've added \$8,716,664,719,910.89 to our debt in 7 years. This is over \$8.7 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

#### TRIBUTE TO KENNEDY PLOWMAN

##### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Kennedy Plowman of Adair-Casey High School. Kennedy Plowman was recently honored for outstanding academic achievement at the Fourteenth Annual Governor's Scholar Recognition on May 1, 2016.

This statewide program is sponsored by the Iowa Governor's Office, the Iowa high school Athletic Association and the Iowa Farm Bureau. Each Iowa high school was invited to select a senior with the highest academic ranking. Not only are they academically gifted, but the selected students are often the youth who are successful in extracurricular activities and community endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Kennedy Plowman in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to reach her goals. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Kennedy on receiving this esteemed designation, and wishing her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2016

Mr. HURT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for Roll Call vote Number 391 on the Mullin of Oklahoma Amendment No. 43 to H.R. 5485, Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2016

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, during the roll call votes on Thursday, July 7, 2016, I missed a vote on an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2017 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations.

Had I been present, on roll call number 394, I would have voted Yea.

#### TO COMMISSION A STATUE OF ELIE WIESEL TO BE PLACED IN THE CAPITOL

##### HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2016

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a bipartisan bill I introduced today with several of my colleagues to authorize a statue of Elie Wiesel to be placed in the U.S. Capitol building.

Holocaust survivor and Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel was a great American, whose moral leadership served as a beacon across our country and around the globe. President Obama rightly called him, "the conscience of the world."

Wiesel was born in Romania in 1928. In 1944, at the age of fifteen, Elie Wiesel was sent to the Nazi concentration camp of Auschwitz, and later to Buchenwald. Both of his parents and his younger sister died in the concentration camps.

After the war, Elie Wiesel became a journalist and wrote about his experiences during the Holocaust. He spent his life as a vocal witness against both the evil that gave rise to the Holocaust and man's inhumanity against his fellow man. His purpose was to speak the truth in the face of power and to clearly and repeatedly say "Never Again." His memoir, *Night*, has been translated into over 30 languages.

He fought against indifference, intolerance, and injustice.

He helped create the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Elie Wiesel was one of the greatest moral forces in the world. He was brilliant, pure, honest, and courageous.

I met Elie Wiesel when I was a Tennessee State Senator and he was honored at Vanderbilt. He was the inspiration for me founding the Tennessee Holocaust Commission in 1987. I

have a picture of him and me hanging in the foyer of my Washington, DC office. The photo was taken when he was honored at the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis.

His voice was strong and will be sorely missed. He was one of my heroes.

I urge my colleagues to help pass this bill.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2016

Mr. HURT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for Roll Call vote Number 389 on the Messer of Indiana Amendment No. 40 to H.R. 5485, Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

#### GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY ACT OF 2016

SPEECH OF

##### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 5, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 1252, the "Global Food Security Act of 2015," which requires the President to develop and implement a Global Food Security Strategy to reduce hunger and maintain global food security and nutrition.

Even in an age of globalization and industrialization, hunger and food security remain fundamental impediments to global wellbeing.

According to UN estimates, 795 people currently live undernourished lives, with 12.9 percent of the population of underdeveloped countries living without proper nutrition and 3.1 million children under the age of five dying of malnutrition every year.

Moreover, with the world's natural resources and biodiversity rapidly degrading, global food security continues to be threatened, as one of the global economy's most crucial driving forces, agriculture, continues to suffer globally, and particularly in underdeveloped states.

Even as the threats of hunger and food instability loom, the necessity of global food security remains, as solutions to global food issues also represent instrumental steps to poverty eradication and economic growth.

In an age where food concerns plague underdeveloped nations and largely industrialized international powers alike, moreover, it is more important than ever to remain committed to proven food initiatives and measures of global food assistance.

In particular, the Food Security Act specifies the importance of promoting activities and programs that strive to promote global food security, resilience, and nutrition.

These measures include programs that:

1. place food insecure countries on a path toward self-sufficiency by coordinating U.S. assistance programs;

2. accelerate agricultural and economic growth in a manner that reduces global poverty, hunger, and malnutrition;

3. increase the productivity and livelihoods of small-scale producers;

4. build resilience to food shocks in vulnerable populations;
5. create an environment for agricultural growth and investment;
6. improve the nutritional status of women and children globally;
7. align with existing U.S. strategies and investments to achieve these objectives;
8. and strengthen relationships between U.S. and foreign universities that contribute to agricultural growth.

In addition, this measure specifies that the President must coordinate a comprehensive government strategy to promote global food security by coordinating across federal departments and agencies to provide assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to prevent or address food shortages.

The President's annual report to Congress on the implementation of these specifications and measures will enable continued monitoring and evaluation of the success of these strategies.

This measure is integral to restoring global food security, and represents a vital step in the global war against world hunger.

I urge all Members to join me in voting to pass S. 1252.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ABNER J. MIKVA

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life and legacy of Abner Mikva and to send my deepest condolences to his family and loved ones. Abner Mikva was one of the most treasured friends I've had in all my life. He was an indispensable mentor, a consistent role model and a great guy to be around. It is somehow fitting, that a man so completely devoted to public service—a true American patriot—would take his last breath on the 4th of July.

Ab is revered in the district I now represent, which first elected him to Congress in 1974. I was one of the countless volunteers who passed his flyers out and knocked on doors. He inspired a whole generation to believe that politics is a noble calling. His grassroots election campaigns that engaged literally thousands of young people wearing his trademark Mikva! T-shirts are legendary. He was a brilliant strategist, able to work across the aisle, but never compromising his core progressive beliefs.

One of the few Americans to serve in all three branches of government as a Congressman, Federal Judge and White House Counsel, Abner was committed to advocating government that was the most helpful it could be to the most people possible. His legacy lives on in the Abner and Zoe (his beloved wife and partner) Mikva Challenge, a program that places high school student interns in both Republican and Democratic offices and campaigns. Thousands of young people for generations to come will experience hands-on involvement in politics because of Ab and Zoe.

In November of 2014, I was proud to witness President Obama, someone Ab Mikva supported and promoted from the day he met him, award Ab with the Presidential Medal of

Freedom. Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan came to an intimate celebration afterward and spoke fondly about the days she served as Abner's law clerk. His 90th birthday party last February showcased Abner Mikva's enduring wit, intelligence and humanity.

He will be deeply, deeply missed by all those who knew, admired, and loved him. I am proud to be one of them. To Abner Mikva's wife Zoe and family, to whom he was completely devoted, I send my gratitude and heartfelt condolences.

#### TRIBUTE TO ROGER HERRING

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Roger Herring of Atlantic, Iowa on his retirement as the Director of the Atlantic Park and Recreation Commission. Roger has served in this capacity for the past five years.

Roger was recently awarded the Key to the City of Atlantic. This recognition has not been bestowed upon a resident in 34 years. Roger is recognized for his dedication and leadership in transforming many parks in Atlantic. He is credited with the vision that has led to many successful improvement projects for the parks and recreation areas within the city.

I commend and congratulate Roger Herring on his retirement and for his many years of dedicated and devoted service to the citizens of Atlantic, Iowa. I am proud to represent him in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating Roger for his many accomplishments and wish him and his family the very best in the future.

#### HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF REAR ADMIRAL (LOWER HALF) KIRK A. FOSTER, JAG CORPS, U.S. NAVY (RET)

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rear Admiral (Lower Half) Kirk A. Foster, Judge Advocate General's Corps, United States Navy (Retired), a son of Pennsylvania who is retiring after 28 years of faithful service to our nation while on active duty in the United States Navy.

Admiral Foster began his service as a student at Villanova Law School and was commissioned an Ensign in the Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps Student Program. During the next 28 years, he served the Navy in a variety of roles throughout the United States and overseas. His shore assignments include Defense Counsel and Prosecutor (San Diego, CA), Litigation Counsel (Washington, DC), Regional Environmental Counsel (Norfolk, VA), Legislative Counsel and Liaison in the Navy's Office of Legislative Affairs (Washington, DC), Special Assistant for Legal and Legislative Matters to the Vice Chief of Naval Operations (Washington, DC) and subsequently to the Chief of Naval Operations (Washington, DC).

Captain Foster also served as Commanding Officer, Region Legal Service Office, Southwest (San Diego, CA); and as the Executive Assistant to the Judge Advocate General (Washington, DC), and as Chief, Legislation Division, Navy's Office of Legislative Affairs (Washington, DC).

Admiral Foster's afloat and operational tours include Command Judge Advocate, Commander, Amphibious Squadron ONE, embarked in USS *Tarawa* (LHA-1); Staff Judge Advocate, Commander, Carrier Group EIGHT, embarked in USS *Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN-71); Force Judge Advocate, Commander, Naval Forces Europe—Commander, U.S. SIXTH Fleet, Naples, Italy; Deputy Staff Judge Advocate, Commander, Multi-National Force—Iraq, Baghdad, Iraq; and Rule of Law Advisor, Office of the Defense Representative to Pakistan, U.S. Embassy, Islamabad, Pakistan.

For his outstanding service to our nation, Admiral Foster earned numerous awards including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and various campaign and unit awards.

On the occasion of his retirement from the Navy, I thank his family and him for his honorable service to our nation and wish him fair winds and following seas as he concludes a most distinguished career.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in commending Admiral Foster for his commitment to our country and the sacrifices he made on its behalf.

#### RECOGNIZING COLONEL LAWRENCE CROZIER

**HON. BETO O'ROURKE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Colonel Lawrence E. Crozier on his retirement from the United States Army after 30 years of service to our country. An esteemed and respected member of the Army Nurse Corps, Colonel Crozier most recently served as the Deputy Commander for Patient Service and Nursing at Fort Bliss' William Beaumont Medical Center in my district of El Paso, Texas. In this capacity, Colonel Crozier was instrumental in day-to-day operations of the Department of Defense's largest medical treatment facility, comprised of more than 3,700 staff members and 72,000 beneficiaries. He also played an integral role in strengthening the relationship between Fort Bliss and the El Paso community.

Colonel Crozier's distinguished career began in 1986 at Fort Gordon, Georgia and included time in Germany; Fort Bliss, Texas; Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Stewart, Georgia; and Fort Sam Houston, Texas. During this time, Colonel Crozier deployed to both Kyrgyzstan and Saudi Arabia in support of humanitarian missions and to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. During his time in Iraq, Colonel Crozier served as the Chief Operating Room Nurse at Baghdad's 86th Combat Support Hospital, where he led a team of nurses and

medics in performing hundreds of lifesaving surgeries for our service members.

As Colonel Crozier embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that he and his family may recall, with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment, the outstanding contributions he has made to the William Beaumont Army Medical Center and to the United States Army. I would like to send him my best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I was not present during roll call vote numbers 382 and 389 on July 7, 2016. I would like to reflect how I would have voted: On roll call vote no. 382 I would have voted NO. On roll call vote no. 389 I would have voted NO.

#### GULFPORT HIGH MARINE CORPS JROTC NATIONAL TITLE

### HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the following students of the Gulfport High School Marine Corps JROTC who recently won the Civilian Marksmanship Program's Three Position Air Rifle National Championship in Camp Perry, Ohio: Rebecca Cook, Katy Nevins, Gabrielle Phelps, and Jillian Tyler. These outstanding young women brought the national title home to Mississippi, and I am proud to honor their achievement.

Under the leadership of Lt. Col. John Owens and team coach Tammy Smith, the Gulfport High School rifle team is no stranger to the national stage, but the win serves as the program's first national title.

These four young women have demonstrated that hard work and dedication will achieve success. As the team competed in a series of events, they defeated 30 other teams from across the United States.

This team has continuously shown true leadership and commitment when the team finished first in their regional competition by shooting a record-setting two-day total. At the competition, Rebecca Cook earned medals for placing third on the first day and placing fifth on the second day. Katy Nevins received a bronze medal, finishing third in her age division. Jillian Tyler holds the highest score for the entire match.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to send the entire Gulfport High School Marine Corps JROTC team my congratulations.

*Semper Fidelis.*

#### HONORING SOPHIE SEPTOFF FOR HER SILVER KNIGHT AWARD

### HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Ms. Sophie Septoff, recent graduate of the Nova Southeastern University School and recipient of the Miami Herald's Silver Knight Award for the category of Music and Dance.

Sophie, who is legally blind, founded the "Dance in the Light" program at the Light-house of Broward through which she teaches blind and visually impaired children the art of dance. Her love for the arts and passion to help others succeed has helped countless children in our community.

Sophie is a talented, smart and poised young woman with a kind heart. I applaud Sophie on her achievement and I am grateful for her compassion to those around her. She represents the best in our community and has set forth a stellar example for other young adults on how to be a caring citizen.

I am confident Ms. Septoff will be incredibly successful in her future endeavors at Georgetown University and wish her all the best.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE FARM REGULATORY CERTAINTY ACT

### HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce my legislation, the Farm Regulatory Certainty Act. In 2015, a federal judge ruled in a citizen suit that dissolved manure nitrates constitute a "solid waste" under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), and held four Washington State dairies culpable of "open dumping" due to their nutrient management practices. A farmer myself, I firmly believe farmers have and must continue to lead the charge on good stewardship and conservation. While I agree there are a number of statutes that do govern nutrient management practices, Congress never intended for RCRA to be one of those statutes. Moreover, the EPA's regulations confirm that agricultural wastes, such as manures and crop residues, were not intended to be governed under RCRA. This misguided ruling has placed farmers across the country in a legal gray area. It is unfair for agricultural nutrients to be exempt from law, then have a court find farmers at fault for non-compliance with the very law they are exempt from. Farmers need certainty as to what rules apply to them.

The legislation I introduce today would clarify and reaffirm that RCRA was not intended to govern nutrient management activities. Moreover, this bill would prevent farmers who are already engaged in legal action and who are diligently working with the state or federal government to address nutrient management issues from being targeted by citizen suits.

We want to continue to encourage farmers to be good stewards, and create an environment where farmers can feel comfortable working with state and federal regulatory

agencies to address stewardship issues—not have farmers fear that documents and samples provided to regulators will be acquired by third-parties and used against them in these "double-jeopardy"-like lawsuits. This common-sense legislation will clarify Congress' intent on this statute, and work to restore a relationship of trust and confidence between farmers and regulators.

#### TRIBUTE TO CAROL AND GARY BARRETT

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Carol and Gary Barrett of Hamburg, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on May 29, 2016.

Carol and Gary's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Carol and Gary Barrett on this momentous occasion.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CARLOS CURBELO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on roll call No. 385, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

#### IN CELEBRATION OF AMBASSADOR MARION H. SMOAK'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and career of Ambassador Marion H. Smoak as he celebrates his 100th birthday. Ambassador Smoak has dedicated many years to public service and deserves to be commended for his service and dedication to our country.

Ambassador Smoak received a bachelor's degree in English and History from The Citadel in 1938. He went on to receive a law degree from the University of South Carolina Law School in 1941. Shortly after receiving his law degree Ambassador Smoak served in the Army and was stationed in Berlin and New Caledonia, Japan, holding the title of Judge Advocate with the 11th and 82nd Airborne Divisions. Following his tour abroad, he began



teaching at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in the Law Department.

Upon leaving his position at West Point, Ambassador Smoak became a legislative liaison officer in Washington, D.C. In this position, he assisted in drafting legislation and performed liaison duties with Congress, the Department of Justice, the Department of State, and the Department of Defense. During his time in Washington, D.C., Ambassador Smoak became Chief of the Legislative Drafting Division for the Judge Advocate General. He served as Chief until his retirement from military service in 1961, leaving with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Following his retirement from the Army, Ambassador Smoak returned to Aiken County, South Carolina along with his wife, Mary Frances Meister, and their three children, Fred, Mary Frances, and Pat. Serving as a practicing attorney in Aiken County, Ambassador Smoak sought office in the South Carolina State Senate and went on to win the election in 1966. Ambassador Smoak was among the first five Republicans that served in the South Carolina State Senate since Reconstruction. While in the State Senate he served on six committees that included: Agriculture, Atomic and Nuclear Energy, Commerce and Manufactures, Military, and Veteran Affairs. Ambassador Smoak fought for the Compulsory School Bill, realigning voting precincts, and compulsory auto inspections. From 1967 to 1968, he also served in the State Constitutional Revision Commission.

Upon completing his term in the Senate, Ambassador Smoak went on to work at the State Department as the Deputy Chief of Protocol and Chief of Protocol for the President and the Secretary of State from 1969 to 1974. During his time at the State Department Ambassador Smoak participated in many significant events including: the inauguration of President Prastrana of Colombia in 1970, the inauguration of President Echeverria of Mexico in 1970, and the funeral of King Frederick IX of Denmark in 1972. When he retired from the State Department in 1974, he was given the title of Ambassador. His glorious career continued when he was named Co-Chairman on the Committee of Finance for then Presidential candidate Ronald Reagan. Ambassador Smoak went on to practice law at Shipley, Smoak, and Henry of Washington, D.C., where he practiced International Law and officially retired.

Among all his involvement and activities, Ambassador Smoak served as Director of the Ackokeek Foundation and the American Friends of Jamaica. He also served as President of Georgetown Club of Washington and the Fairfax Hunt of Northern Virginia, and assisted in the production of the Red Cross Ball in Palm Beach, Florida as Diplomatic Chairman. Currently, Ambassador Smoak is a member of the Chevy Chase Club and the Metropolitan Club of Washington, the Everglades Club and the Palm Beach Polo and Country Club of Palm Beach Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the career and noble service of Ambassador Smoak. It is with great pride that we thank him for his service, and wish him continued health and happiness with his friends, family, and loved ones.

## HONORING JUDGE ROGER L. GREGORY OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

**HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to congratulate Judge Roger L. Gregory on his ascension to the rank of Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit on Saturday, July 9, 2016. As the highest ranking judge of the Richmond-based Fourth Circuit, Judge Gregory will preside as "first among equals" over 15 active and two senior judges that are responsible for appellate cases rising from Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina—a jurisdiction that includes almost 30 million people.

Judge Gregory's service on the bench is historic in a couple of respects. He is the first African American to serve on the Fourth Circuit, which was the only remaining federal circuit in the nation where all of the judges were white. He came to the Fourth Circuit as a recess appointment of President William Jefferson Clinton on December 27, 2000. Despite the bipartisan support of the Commonwealth of Virginia's two U.S. Senators, John Warner (R) and Charles Robb (D)—and the fact that the Fourth Circuit had several vacancies—Judge Gregory's nomination in June 2000 to the Fourth Circuit was effectively blocked by Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina who opposed efforts to diversify the courts.

Judge Gregory made history again when he became the only person in United States history to have been appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals by presidents of two different political parties. He was reappointed by President George W. Bush, with the support of Senator John Warner and newly elected Senator George Allen, and confirmed by the U.S. Senate on July 20, 2001.

During the past 15 years on the bench, Judge Gregory has developed a reputation as a distinguished and brilliant jurist. He is seen as a leader in forging consensus in the Fourth Circuit and providing legal analysis that has helped to evolve the thinking of the court. Judge Gregory was on the panel of judges that heard two groundbreaking cases that were eventually heard by the U.S. Supreme Court. In 2014, Judge Gregory was part of the Fourth Circuit's unanimous ruling in *King v. Burwell* to conclude that the government's interpretation of the final rule implementing the premium tax credit provision of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act should be given deference. On July 28, 2014, Judge Gregory was part of the Fourth Circuit's majority decision that ruled 2–1 in *Bostic v. Schaefer* to strike down Virginia's ban on same-sex marriage as "impermissibly infring[ing] on its citizens' fundamental right to marry." The Supreme Court eventually affirmed the ruling in *King v. Burwell* and denied a writ of certiorari in *Bostic v. Schaefer*, letting that decision stand.

Judge Gregory's legal stewardship was displayed in the case of *Henry v. Purnell*, an important case about excessive force by police and qualified immunity. In the original three-judge panel opinion, he filed a dissenting opin-

ion. But when the case was heard en banc, before all the judges of the Fourth Circuit, Judge Gregory amassed a wide 10–3 majority of the court to support his position and hold that the use of force was objectively unreasonable. Judge Gregory's reasoning in his Fourth Circuit dissents was also the basis of two U.S. Supreme Court's majority decisions. One case that reversed a Truth-in-Lending Act decision in the *Koons Buick Pontiac v. Nigh* (2004) and another that approved Judge Gregory's approach in *FEC v. Beaumont* (2003).

Equally remarkable is Judge Gregory's personal story and professional successes. Roger Gregory was born in Philadelphia, but was adopted by a family and raised in the "Heights" section of Petersburg, Virginia. On reflecting on his parents, Judge Gregory said "I think about my parents. They worked in a tobacco factory and had very little formal education. They got up early and worked more time to earn wages so I could learn my letters."

Judge Gregory "learned his letters" and then some. He attended segregated schools until the eleventh grade and became the first person in his family to graduate from high school. He graduated *summa cum laude* from Virginia State University and earned a law degree from the University of Michigan in 1978. He also holds honorary degrees from Virginia Union University, Virginia State University, Virginia Commonwealth University, Widener University and Saint Paul's College.

After a stint at corporate law firms, he formed the law firm of Wilder & Gregory with former Virginia Governor L. Douglas Wilder. He practiced law at Wilder & Gregory and served as managing partner and head of the litigation section of the firm until his appointment to the Fourth Circuit in 2000.

Judge Gregory is widely admired and respected by his colleagues on the bench and in the Virginia Bar. He has supported numerous charitable, legal, and educational organizations and currently serves on the board of trustees of the University of Richmond and the John Marshall Foundation. Judge Gregory is a past rector and member of the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University and served on the Board of Visitors of Virginia State University, where he taught as an adjunct professor of Constitutional Law.

Judge Gregory is an active member of Good Shepherd Baptist Church, in Petersburg, Virginia, where he serves as Artistic Director of the Drama Ministry. He is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and the Alpha Beta Boule of the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity.

The appointment of Roger Gregory as Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit will be celebrated by many who value the wisdom of a wise jurist who holds the deepest respect for the U.S. Constitution. This honor is celebrated especially by his wife Velda Edwards Gregory; his daughters Adriene, Rachel and Christina; and Kai, his only granddaughter and the "apple of [his] eye."

Mr. Speaker, I offer my heartfelt congratulations to Judge Gregory. The people of the Fourth Circuit should be reassured that they have a defender of justice and fairness.



COMMEMORATING INDIANA UNIVERSITY TRACK COACH SAM BELL

### HON. TODD C. YOUNG

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of my hometown community in Bloomington, Indiana, and the many Hoosiers who crossed paths with legendary track coach, Sam Bell.

It's difficult to estimate just how many Hoosiers it is I speak for today, but suffice it to say, Coach Bell had a tremendous impact in his three decades coaching at Indiana University.

It would take all of the time allotted here and then some, to try to list all of Coach Bell's accomplishments.

But among the brightest in his long line of successes, was being a father of four, a grandfather to nine, and a source of confidence for so many young people that he coached.

Sam Bell remains one of the most highly-regarded coaches in the history of Indiana track and field—and for good reason.

He won hundreds of titles. He coached Olympians. He commanded a reputation for greatness which preceded him everywhere he went.

His athletes will be the first to tell you Coach Bell was intensely demanding. He was tough—some say old school or conservative even. But they respected him for it.

I was especially struck, Mr. Speaker, by one former Olympian who, years later, finds himself constantly quoting Coach Bell to his own children.

You see, because of the type of person Coach Bell was, he had the ability to transform not just a single athlete's life, but the lives of those who come thereafter.

There is perhaps no greater legacy one can leave, and I am privileged to share it here today—and offer my respects to the Bell family and all who called him "Coach."

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2016

Mr. HURT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for Roll Call vote Number 390 on the Palmer of Alabama Amendment No. 41 to H.R. 5485, Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2016

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for the following Roll Call votes. I would like to reflect how I would have voted had I been present. Roll Call No. 367, Yea. Roll Call No.

377, Nay. Roll Call No. 378, Yea. Roll Call No. 379, Yea. Roll Call No. 380, Yea. Roll Call No. 381, Yea. Roll Call No. 382, Yea. Roll Call No. 383, Yea. Roll Call No. 384, Yea. Roll Call No. 385, Yea. Roll Call No. 386, Yea. Roll Call No. 387, Yea. Roll Call No. 388, Yea. Roll Call No. 389, Yea. Roll Call No. 390, Yea. Roll Call No. 391, Yea. Roll Call No. 392, Yea. Roll Call No. 393, Yea. Roll Call No. 394, Nay. Roll Call No. 395, Yea. Roll Call No. 396, Yea. Roll Call No. 397, Nay. Roll Call No. 398, Yea.

#### TRIBUTE TO ROBERT "BOB" WEGE

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Robert "Bob" Wege of Council Bluffs, Iowa who recently retired as a member of the Citizen's Police Advisory Board of Council Bluffs. The Citizen's Police Advisory Board acts as a liaison to strengthen relationships between the citizens of Council Bluffs and the local Police Department. Bob has served on the Advisory Board for over 30 years.

When Bob retired in 1984 from the U.S. Army he knew he wanted to do something for his community. He became a member of the Citizen's Police Advisory Board because it had a history of loyalty and structure similar to the U.S. Army. He served five different police chiefs while serving on the Advisory Board. Mr. Wege said he could remember something that President Lyndon Johnson had said, "Law enforcement cannot succeed without the sustained and informed interest of all citizens." When he read this statement, Bob knew this was something he could do for his community.

Bob was raised in Norfolk, Nebraska and attended Norfolk High School. There he met his future wife, Mary Ann, and they married in 1948. Bob joined the U.S. Army later that year and spent the next 36 years serving our country. Bob has not asked for any special recognition but has been motivated by his desire to serve his nation and his community.

I commend and congratulate Bob Wege for his service to our country and his commitment and dedication to Council Bluffs, Iowa. I am proud to represent him in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating Bob Wege for his service and wish him the very best in the future.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF MARK MCCARTNEY OF THE LEESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

### HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge Mark McCartney, the Master Police Officer of the Leesburg Police Department, for his many years of service to the community of Loudoun County. Mr. McCartney has been a part of the Leesburg Police since August 1986, and his many years of service have been hallmarked with distinctions worthy of

such a dedicated officer who will soon be retiring exactly 30 years after he first started.

Mark began his police training in 1985 when he was enrolled in the Municipal Police Academy of the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and then subsequently attended the 64th session of the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Academy. He served the following 10 years as a patrol officer before being promoted to the rank of corporal in 1989. He was furthermore a motorcycle officer for 18 years during which he investigated countless road accidents, and was a member of the Crash Reconstruction Unit. More notably still, Officer McCartney also acted as the sniper for the Special Operations Team, whilst also returning to the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Academy as a radar instructor. He was decorated as Master Police Officer in 2003.

Officer McCartney has gone beyond his duty throughout his years of service as evidenced by his exemplary record, and this record has not gone unseen. Indeed, Mark McCartney has been honored with multiple awards throughout his career including that of Officer of the Year, the Loudoun County Chamber Life Saving Award, and of course the Leesburg Police Outstanding Service Award. This is a man who deserves all our thanks and gratitude for all that he has done for our community.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to congratulate Officer McCartney for his service, and to join me in wishing him a happiness and fortune in his future endeavors.

#### DR. AND MRS. PRAVINCHANDRA H. PATEL

### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2016

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my personal congratulations and best wishes to an outstanding man, distinguished medical professional and special friend, Dr. Pravinchandra H. Patel, MD in his union of holy matrimony with Ms. June Cassman. They exchanged nuptials on Saturday, June 25, 2016, in San Francisco, California and the wedding will be followed by a reception as well as a traditional Garba and Raas ceremony, which will take place at the Columbus, Georgia Convention and Trade Center on Saturday, July 9, 2016.

Pravinchandra, or "P.H.", as he is known by his loved ones, is an extraordinary physician who specializes in Gastroenterology and Internal Medicine. P.H. graduated from Kasturba Medical College in 1979. He went on to intern at the Jewish Hospital For Chronic Diseases in 1982, and then attended Eastern Tennessee State University College of Medicine where he completed both his residency (in 1984) and his fellowship (in 1987). He is now one of the leading physicians at Gastrointestinal Diseases, Inc. in Columbus, Georgia. Dr. Patel's gastrointestinal practice serves as a primary source of professional care for digestive diseases in the Columbus area.

He has provided extraordinary medical care to the patients in the Chattahoochee Valley Area for more than 34 years. Moreover, Dr. Patel is an exemplary entrepreneur and philanthropist. Having immigrated to the United

States from India, Dr. Patel nevertheless retains his cultural and religious heritage. His luxurious home is designed, decorated, and furnished with authentic materials, art and other decor imported from India. Indeed his wedding celebration will include the traditional Garba and Raas ceremony.

Dr. Pravinchandra H. Patel is truly a man of achievement, service and public distinction and will certainly be complemented in his life and career going forward by his union with his new wife, June.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join my wife, Vivian and me, along with more than 730,000 citizens of the 2nd Congressional District of Georgia, in congratulating Dr. Pravinchandra H. Patel, MD and his new wife, June, on their marriage and continued service to their community. They are so deserving of this magical moment and a lifetime of happiness to follow. May love reign in their lives forever.

REMEMBERING ROMERO: GOD  
PASSED THROUGH EL SALVADOR

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2016

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, in the Spring 2016 edition of *ReVista Magazine*, Gene Palumbo has written a beautiful remembrance of Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Romero, who was assassinated in 1980 and recently beatified in May 2015 in a moving ceremony that I was privileged to attend.

I have known Gene Palumbo for over three decades. He first began reporting on the war in El Salvador in 1980, when he moved to El Salvador to continue covering the civil war over the next twelve years. I remember speaking to him frequently when I traveled to El Salvador during those turbulent times, and I have always valued his insights and knowledge of the people, institutions and internal dynamics of that country. Gene has reported for the *New York Times*, *National Public Radio*, the *Canadian Broadcasting Company*, and most frequently, for the *National Catholic Reporter*. He teaches at the *Casa de la Solidaridad*, a semester-long study abroad program for U.S. university students in San Salvador.

Gene's reporting continues to inform and inspire me. This moving tribute to Archbishop Romero reflects the hope Gene continues to have in El Salvador's future. I urge all my colleagues to read and reflect on the life of the martyred and blessed Oscar Romero and the dedication of Gene Palumbo, who continues to write about the challenges facing the Salvadoran people.

REMEMBERING ROMERO: "GOD PASSED THROUGH  
EL SALVADOR"

(By Gene Palumbo)

SAN SALVADOR.—Fr. Paul Schindler remembers the day when Oscar Romero sat beside him, trembling. Romero knew he wasn't among friends. The scene was a clergy meeting in early 1977, and many of the priests were furious: a man they'd clashed with—Romero—had just been named as the new archbishop.

As the meeting was ending, Romero—who hadn't yet been installed—was asked if he'd like to say a few words. For all Schindler knew, they would be the last words he'd ever

hear from Romero. Discouraged at the prospect of working under someone he was unsure of, Schindler had told his bishop back in Cleveland that he'd decided to return home after eight years of parish work in El Salvador.

"He walked to the front of the room and began to speak," said Schindler, "and after a half hour, I said to myself, 'I'm not going anywhere.'"

It was Schindler's first glimpse of something that, until then, had been unknown to him and many others: Romero had begun to change. Earlier, in his years as an auxiliary bishop in San Salvador, many had regarded him as too docile, too accepting of a social order which, they felt, cried out for change. Then, in 1974, he was named bishop of Santiago de Maria, a rural diocese where government repression was widespread, and where, while Romero was bishop, the first massacres of peasants took place. His three years there affected him deeply.

Those were the years when Eva Menjívar came to know him. She was one of many nuns who, in the 1960s, left their convents in San Salvador and went to work in rural parishes that had no priests.

She was assigned to Ciudad Barrios, the small town in eastern El Salvador where Romero was born and grew up. The town was located in the Santiago de Maria diocese, and by the time Romero was named bishop there, Menjívar and her fellow sisters had catechetical and literacy programs underway, and were offering job training in sewing and auto mechanics.

Menjívar says that when people invited Romero to visit their far-flung hamlets, he almost always accepted. She recalls an occasion when residents of one of those hamlets staged a play for him, a play they had written about several Gospel parables. Afterward, they spoke about what the parables meant to them.

At the end they turned to Romero and—as one might ask an expert—said, tell us what these parables really mean. His reply, Menjívar recalls, was, "I have nothing to add. I've learned more about the Bible today than I did when I studied it in the seminary in Rome."

"We had never seen a bishop draw near to the people the way he did," says Menjívar. "He'd greet them all, try to speak with them all, and when they had questions for him, he was happy to try to answer them."

Schindler's experience was similar. "Whenever I'd invite him—and not just to the main church, but to the rural villages—he would come. He was always there with the people. That was his whole thing: to walk with them, to feel with them, to inspire them."

Menjívar recalls the sisters' monthly retreats with Romero, and the time in late 1976 when, informed that the National Guard had arrested two teenage catechists in Ciudad Barrios, he went there immediately to demand their release. To ensure that they wouldn't be re-arrested, he took them back to Santiago de Maria where he listened to their accounts of being tortured.

Menjívar was later transferred to a parish near the town of Aguilaes. There she worked with Jesuit Fr. Rutilio Grande, whose sainthood process is now underway. On the evening of March 12, 1977, she was at Mass when she was handed a note saying that Grande had disappeared. She went straight to Aguilaes and, upon arriving, learned that he had been murdered along with an elderly campesino and a teenager.

Grande and Romero had become close friends in the late 1960s, when both were living at the seminary in San Salvador. When Romero was named bishop in 1970, he asked Grande to preside at his installation ceremony.

In the following four years—up until the time he left for Santiago de Maria—Romero had bitter disputes with priests in the archdiocese, and when, to their dismay, he was named archbishop in 1977, it was Grande who stood up for him.

"Rutilio said to us, 'Yes, he's conservative. But he's honest, and he's someone you can work with,'" said Fr. Pedro Declercq, a Belgian missionary whose work with grass-roots Christian communities led to the bombing of his parish.

Declercq didn't have to wait long to see how much Romero had changed. They'd had an ugly falling out in 1972, when his parishioners invited Romero to visit them to say Mass and explain why he had justified, on behalf of the bishops conference, a military invasion of the National University.

The army had wounded some people, arrested others, and evicted people whose homes were on the university's campus. The discussion between Romero and the parishioners began at the homily, but quickly turned into a shouting match, with Declercq finally tearing off his vestments and saying the Mass was over.

When Romero returned to San Salvador as archbishop, he visited the parish again. As recounted by Sister Noemi Ortiz in Maria López Vigil's *Monseñor Romero: Memories in Mosaic*,

[Romero] brought up [the earlier incident] as soon as he got there. "We couldn't even celebrate the Eucharist that afternoon . . . We were insulting each other. . . . Do you remember? I remember it well and today, as your pastor, I want to say that I now understand what happened that day, and here before you I recognize my error."

"I was wrong and you were right. That day you taught me about faith and about the Church. Please forgive me for everything that happened then."

Well, all of us, young and old, started crying . . . We broke into applause, and our applause melted into the music of the party. . . . All was forgiven.

On the night of Grande's death, Menjívar was sitting beside his corpse, using a towel to absorb the blood that was trickling out, when Romero arrived at the parish. She said Romero approached the corpse and, after standing in silence for several moments, said, "If we don't change now, we never will."

Jesuit Fr. Jon Sobrino, a prominent liberation theologian, was at the parish that night, and answered the door when Romero knocked. Earlier Romero had criticized Sobrino's writings on Christology; later, as archbishop, he would consult Sobrino when preparing his pastoral letters.

Sobrino says that after Romero himself was murdered, "people began speaking of him as an exceptional person and Christian. In the funeral Mass we held for him at the UCA (Central American University), Ignacio Ellacuría said, 'In Archbishop Romero, God passed through El Salvador' The people spontaneously proclaimed him a saint" (In 1989, Fr. Ellacuría, along with five other Jesuits and two women, was murdered at the UCA.)

When Pope Francis ratified Romero's status as a martyr, Schindler said, "The people in the parish have been waiting and waiting for this. They hold him as a saint, and they've always held him as a saint, and now that the pronouncement has been made, they're going to be overwhelmed."

Menjívar said that when she heard the news, "I felt great joy—and at the same time, I thought to myself, I hope this will be the occasion for those who killed him to be converted."

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on July 7, 2016, my vote on roll call 394 was recorded as "nay" due to an inadvertent error. I intended to vote "yea" on roll call vote 394.

IN OPPOSITION TO RULE ON MOTION TO GO TO CONFERENCE ON S. 2943, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017 AND CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 524, COMPREHENSIVE ADDICTION AND RECOVERY ACT OF 2016

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the Rule for this very important reason.

I oppose the rule because we should instead be devoting our time, attention, and energy to passing legislation to address the epidemic of gun violence and keeps the most dangerous weapons out of the hands of the most dangerous persons and potential terrorists.

Mr. Speaker, we should instead be debating and voting on "No Fly, No Buy" legislation to keep guns out of the hands of suspected terrorists and H.R. 1217, the "Public Safety & Second Amendment Rights Protection Act of 2015," sponsored by Congressman PETER KING of New York and Congressman MIKE THOMPSON of California, which expands and strengthens the firearms transfer background check system.

Less than a month ago, on June 12, our nation was horrified and heartbroken by the heinous act of terror and hatred that claimed the lives of 49 innocent persons and wounded many more in Orlando, Florida, the deadliest mass shooting in the history of our country.

Our hearts still grieve over a loss so overwhelming and senseless.

Mass shootings have become too common in our country and we owe it to the victims of gun violence—from Orlando to Charleston to Aurora to Chattanooga to Fort Hood and more—to keep weapons intended for military use out of the hands of persons who would use them to massacre civilians.

Mr. Speaker, the statistics are grim.

In 2015, 13,286 people were killed in the United States by firearms and 26,819 people were injured;

In 2015 there were 372 mass shootings in the United States, including 64 school shootings at elementary and secondary schools;

More than 700 children have lost their lives to gun violence in the first 160 days of 2015;

On average, 7 children and adolescents lose their lives to gun violence each day, 75 percent of which are under the age of 12 years old;

So many people die annually from gun violence in the United States that the death toll between 1968 and 2011 eclipses the total

lives lost in all the armed conflicts in the history of the United States;

Mr. Speaker, let me briefly recount some of the gun violence carnage that claimed the lives of more than 300,000 persons during the period 2005–2015:

1. On June 7, 2015, a gunman shot and killed nine people at the Mother Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina, one of the oldest and largest black congregations in the South;

2. On November 11, 2009, at Fort Hood, near Killeen, Texas, a gunman shot and killed 13 people, and wounded 30 others;

3. On August 5, 2012 in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, a gunman shot and killed six people, and injured three others, at the Sikh Temple of Oak Creek;

4. On July 7, 2015 in Chattanooga, Tennessee a gunman shot and killed five people, including two U.S. Marines and a Naval Officer, and shot and injured two others at a recruiting center and U.S. Naval Reserve Center;

5. On December 2, 2015 in San Bernardino, California, two gunmen killed 14 people and injured 21 others at the Inland Regional Center;

6. On December 14, 2012, a gunman murdered 26 persons, including 20 children and 6 school administrators and teachers, at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Connecticut;

7. On April 16, 2007, a gunman killed 32 persons and injured 17 others at Virginia Tech University in Blacksburg, Virginia; and

8. On August 8, 2015, a gunman brutally murdered his ex-girlfriend and her six children and husband in one of the most notorious cases of domestic violence in the history of Houston, Texas;

Nearly 100 metropolitan areas have experienced mass shootings like these since 2013.

Mass shootings occur more frequently in states that do not require background checks for all gun sales and analyses of mass shootings in the United States between 2009 and 2015 document that the majority of mass shootings occur in venues where the carrying of firearms is not restricted.

In states that require background checks for all handgun sales, including guns offered in unlicensed sales online and at gun shows, there are 52 percent fewer mass shootings.

Congress has observed 25 moments of silence honoring victims of mass shootings since the December 14, 2012 massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, but has not enacted or even brought up for debate and vote a single gun violence prevention measure.

That is why I have introduced H.R. 5470, the "Stop Mass Killings by Violent Terrorists Act," which will prohibit a firearms dealer from transferring a semiautomatic assault weapon or large capacity ammunition clips to a purchaser until the Attorney General has verified that the prospective transferee has truthfully answered new questions on the firearms background check questionnaire regarding contacts between the prospective purchaser or transferee and federal law enforcement authorities.

H.R. 5470 complements many of the gun violence prevention and anti-terrorism bills I have introduced in this and previous Congresses, including the "No Fly For Foreign Fighters Act" (H.R. 4240), which passed the House earlier this year and is pending in the Senate.

I am pleased that Republican Senator SUSAN COLLINS, along with her colleagues Senator LINDSAY GRAHAM and others, have introduced bipartisan legislation this week that will ban the sale of guns to anyone who appears on the government's No-Fly list, or the selectee list, a list which includes names of people who require additional security at airports.

Clearly, if you're too dangerous to get on a plane, you're too dangerous to buy a gun.

On average gun violence claims the lives of 90 persons each day. Since 1968, more than a million persons have died at the hand of a gun.

The homicide rate in the United States is about 6.9 times higher than the combined rate in 22 other populous highly-developed countries, despite similar non-lethal crime and violence rates.

Mr. Speaker, we can reduce the incidence of mass shootings like the ones that occurred in San Bernardino, Newtown, and Orlando by making it more difficult for those who would do our people and communities harm to obtain automatic assault weapons and high capacity ammunition magazines more difficult, or better yet, by banning them altogether.

And a good place to start is for the House to reject this Rule and bring to the floor for debate and vote H.R. 1217, the Public Safety & Second Amendment Rights Protection Act of 2015," and the bill I have introduced with Congresswoman CORINE BROWN, whose congressional district includes Orlando's Pulse Nightclub, H.R. 5470, the "Stop Mass Killings by Violent Terrorists Act."

TRIBUTE TO THE 2016 PANORAMA  
HIGH SCHOOL BOYS GOLF TEAM

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Panorama Boys Golf Team for winning for the 2016 Iowa Boys 2A State Golf Tournament.

I would like to congratulate each member of the Team:

Players: Reid Cobb, Aaron Kling, Will Babcock, George Appleseth, Max Monthei and Adam Hackfort Coaches: Hal Rossow and Dave Van Ahn

Mr. Speaker, the example set by these students and their coaches demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. I am honored to represent them in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating these young men for competing in this rigorous competition and wishing them all continued success.

RECOGNIZING THE EXPANSION OF  
THE FRESNO COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 8, 2016*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the grand opening of the Fresno

County Historical Museum, an expansion of the award-winning Big Fresno Fair Museum. The Fresno County Historical Museum will provide the opportunity for many individuals to learn about the diverse and rich history of Fresno County.

The first phase of the Fresno County Historical Museum was initially opened to the public during the 2015 Big Fresno Fair, and will be expanded to include an additional 7,000 square feet of exhibit space. This space will serve to highlight historical items in both permanent and temporary displays from the Fresno Police Department, Fresno Fire Department, Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame, Sheriff's Office, Fresno Historical Society, Legion of Valor, the Fresno County Farm Bureau, and many more.

The Fresno County Historical Museum is one of the largest capital improvement projects in years at the Fresno Fair Grounds. It will reflect the diverse communities that call Fresno County home by commemorating Mono Indian, Armenian, and Japanese American histories and the positive impact they have had on our county. Displays will pay tribute to the famed inhabitants of our county through photography, artifacts, and memorabilia. For example, the museum will provide the first permanent venue for the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame that will showcase photos and sports memorabilia of its 300 inductees, including the late beloved coach Jerry Tarkanian, U.S. Olympic softball medalist Laura Berg, and Major League Baseball player Frank LeRoy Chance. In addition, other exhibits are planned to honor notable members of Fresno County, including the famed Oscar and Pulitzer-prize winning author, William Saroyan.

The Fresno County Historical Museum is a place for the community to learn more about the county's past, and to further appreciate what makes Fresno County the great place it is. It is an honor to celebrate this momentous occasion with the Big Fresno Fair Board of Directors, The Fresno County Historical Society, and the community members through Fresno County who have made this museum a reality. Without the unwavering commitment of these individuals, projects and facilities such as the Fresno County Historical Museum would not be possible.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the Fresno County Historical Museum expansion to the Big Fresno Fair Museum. This museum will allow the residents of Fresno County to learn and appreciate the rich history of our Valley for many generations to come.

#### ADJUTANT GENERAL COLLINS OF MISSISSIPPI ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

#### HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2016

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Major General Augustus L. Collins, the adjutant general of Mississippi, for his service to the Mississippi National Guard. General Collins announced his retirement July 5, 2016 and will be succeeded by Brigadier Gen. Janson D. Boyles on September 1, 2016.

Currently overseeing the Mississippi Military Department and serving as the commander of the Mississippi Army and Air National Guard, Collins will retire his time in uniform after 35 years of loyal service to Mississippi and the United States. A Booneville, Mississippi native, General Collins was appointed as the adjutant general on January 11, 2012, by Governor Phil Bryant and is in charge of 12,275 Citizen Soldiers and Airmen.

Collins' career began in March 1977 as a private with the Mississippi Army National Guard's Company B, 1st Battalion, 198th Armor Regiment. Several years later, in 1980, General Collins completed Officer Candidate School and served in command and staff positions on the company, battalion, and brigade levels. He also served on the adjutant general's primary staff as a traditional and active Guard—Reserve Soldier.

General Collins served on active duty in Operations Desert Shield and Storm, and commanded the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team during Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2004–2006. This was the largest mobilization of troops from Mississippi since World War II. Collins was then promoted to brigadier general in May of 2005 in Iraq. In 2012, he was then appointed to his current position of adjutant general.

Collins is a distinct and resilient leader that has worked alongside many soldiers, airmen and civilians. I thank him for his dedication to Mississippi and America over the last 35 years. He is an inductee into the University of Mississippi Alumni Hall of Fame and a 2006 inductee into the Mississippi Military Academy Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame. He is a highly decorated official, having earned prestigious awards from Mississippi as well as numerous nationally recognized awards. General Collins has an incomparable record of leadership and I sincerely appreciate his long-standing efforts to protect the state and people of Mississippi.

I would like to extend by best wishes to Major General Augustus L. Collins upon his retirement from the Mississippi National Guard and future endeavors.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF HERO HOMES

#### HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge HeroHomes, a nonprofit organization in my district dedicated to providing veterans who have heroically served our country the satisfaction of owning their own homes, a solid foundation for a successful future, and the pride that comes with living independently. With all of the sacrifices that our veterans make preserving freedom and democracy for others, I can think of few causes that are nobler than helping these returning heroes reenter civilian life. Recently, HeroHomes was able to provide a new home for its first disabled veteran, Tony Porta. Tony was an Apache Helicopter pilot with over 2,500 hours of flight time from over 20 years of service, and had five tours of duty in both Iraq and Afghanistan. Unfortunately, in the process of carrying out his duties, he suffered a severe spinal injury and subsequently spent over two and a half

years in the hospital while also suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, or PTSD. Tony has more than fulfilled his duty and has sacrificed much for the sake of his country, and HeroHomes was there for him in his time of need. Their altruism is beyond measure and the institution has more than lived up to its motto "building houses, jobs, and community for those who have fought for the preservation of freedom and democracy for others".

Following the sentiments of the organization's founder, Jason Brownell, HeroHomes not only assists in providing homes for these brave veterans, but also settles them into a small town community setting. This foundation not only embodies charity and selflessness, but has helped to inspire it; with members of the community and local builders having volunteered to help make this initiative a reality.

Mr. Speaker, the good men and women that make up this institution exemplify a spirit of comradeship that makes America truly great. I would encourage my colleagues to join me in thanking all of our servicemen and women that have sacrificed much in defense of our nation, and HeroHomes for their impassioned care of our heroes when they return home.

#### FINANCIAL NET WORTH

#### HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2016

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, through the following statement, I am making my financial net worth as of March 31, 2016, a matter of public record. I have filed similar statements for each of the thirty-seven preceding years I have served in the Congress.

#### ASSETS

##### REAL PROPERTY

Single family residence at 609 Ft. Williams Parkway, City of Alexandria, Virginia, at assessed valuation. (Assessed at \$1,441,186). Ratio of assessed to market value: 100% (Unencumbered): \$1,441,186.00.

Condominium at N76 W14726 North Point Drive, Village of Menomonee Falls, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, at assessor's estimated market value. (Unencumbered): \$138,000.00.

Undivided 25/44ths interest in single family Residence at N52 W32654 Maple Lane, Village of Chenequa, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, at 25/44ths of assessor's estimated market value of \$1,503,400: \$854,204.55.

Total Real Property: \$2,433,390.55.

Common & preferred stock	# of shares	per share	Value
Abbott Laboratories, Inc. ....	12200	41.83	\$510,326.00
AbbVie Inc. ....	9537	57.12	544,753.44
Alcatel-Lucent ....	135	3.70	499.50
Allstate Corporation ....	370	67.37	24,926.90
AT&T ....	7275	39.17	284,961.75
JP Morgan Chase ....	4539	59.22	268,799.58
Benton County Mining Company	333	0.00	0.00
BP PLC ....	3604	30.18	108,768.72
Centerpoint Energy ....	300	20.92	6,276.00
Chemours Company ....	240	7.00	1,680.00
Chenega Country Club Realty Co. ....	1	0.00	0.00
Comcast ....	634	61.08	38,724.72
Darden Restaurants, Inc. ....	2160	66.30	143,208.00
Discover Financial Services	156	50.92	7,943.52
Dun & Bradstreet, Inc. ....	1250	103.08	128,850.00
E.I. DuPont de Nemours Corp. ....	1200	62.32	74,784.00
Eastman Chemical Co. ....	540	72.23	39,004.20
Exxon Mobil Corp. ....	9728	83.59	813,163.52
Four Corners Property Trust Inc. ....	983	17.95	17,644.85
Frontier Comm. ....	591	5.59	3,303.69
Gartner Inc. ....	651	89.35	58,166.85

Common & preferred stock	# of shares	per share	Value
General Electric Co. ....	15600	31.79	495,924.00
General Mills, Inc. ....	5760	63.35	364,896.00
NRG Energy .....	28	13.01	364.28
Imation Corp. ....	99	1.55	153.45
Kellogg Corp. ....	3200	76.55	244,960.00
3M Company .....	2000	166.63	333,260.00
Express Scripts .....	6656	68.69	457,200.64
Monsanto Company .....	2852.315	87.74	250,262.12
Moody's .....	5000	96.56	482,800.00
Morgan Stanley .....	312	25.01	7,803.12
NCR Corp. ....	68	29.93	2,035.24
Newell Rubbermaid .....	1676	44.29	74,230.04
PG & E Corp. ....	175	59.72	10,451.00
Pfizer .....	30415	29.64	901,500.60
Century Link .....	95	31.96	3,036.20
Tenneco Inc. ....	182	51.51	9,374.82
Unisys Corp. ....	16	7.70	123.20
US Bancorp .....	3081	40.59	125,057.79
Verizon .....	1918	54.08	103,725.44
Vodafone Group PLC .....	323	32.05	10,352.15
WEC Energy (Wisconsin En- ergy) .....	2044	60.07	122,783.08
Total common & pre- ferred stocks & bonds .....			\$7,076,078.41

Life insurance policies	Face \$	Surrender \$
Northwestern Mutual #00 .....	12,000.00	125,351.31
Northwestern Mutual #61 .....	30,000.00	301,618.36
Massachusetts Mutual #75 .....	10,000.00	18,091.39
Massachusetts Mutual #44 .....	100,000.00	487,331.73
American General Life Ins. #59L ..	175,000.00	41,033.09

Life insurance policies	Face \$	Surrender \$
Total life insurance policies .....		\$973,425.88

  

Bank & IRA accounts	Balance
JP Morgan Chase Bank, checking account .....	\$73,590.52
JP Morgan Chase Bank, savings account .....	94,538.66
BMO Harris Bank, checking account .....	8,711.42
Burke & Herbert Bank, Alexandria, VA, checking ac- count .....	6,175.75
JP Morgan, IRA accounts .....	139,625.69
Total bank & IRA accounts .....	\$322,642.04

  

Miscellaneous	Value
2009 Ford Taurus .....	\$6,498.00
2013 Ford Taurus .....	16,753.00
Office furniture & equipment (estimated) .....	1,000.00
Furniture, clothing & personal property (estimated) .....	180,000.00
Stamp collection (estimated) .....	200,000.00
Deposits in Congressional Retirement Fund .....	242,736.43
Deposits in Federal Thrift Savings Plan .....	560,841.65
Traveler's checks .....	7,800.00
17 ft. Boston Whaler boat & 70 hp Johnson outboard motor (estimated) .....	4,500.00
20 ft. Pontoon boat & 40 hp Mercury outboard motor (estimated) .....	7,500.00
Total miscellaneous .....	\$1,227,629.08
Total assets .....	\$12,033,165.96

Liabilities: None.  
Total liabilities: 0.00.

Net worth: \$12,033,165.96.

#### STATEMENT OF 2015 TAXES PAID

Federal Income Tax .....	\$190,907.00
Wisconsin Income Tax .....	47,476.00
Menomonee Falls, WI Property Tax .....	2,321.00
Chenequa, WI Property Tax .....	20,578.00
Alexandria, VA Property Tax .....	14,316.00

I further declare that I am trustee of a trust established under the will of my late father, Frank James Sensenbrenner, Sr., for the benefit of my sister, Margaret A. Sensenbrenner, and of my two sons, F. James Sensenbrenner, III, and Robert Alan Sensenbrenner. I am further the direct beneficiary of five trusts, but have no control over the assets of either trust. My wife, Cheryl Warren Sensenbrenner, and I are trustees of separate trusts established for the benefit of each son.

Also, I am neither an officer nor a director of any corporation organized under the laws of the State of Wisconsin or of any other state or foreign country.

F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, Jr.,  
*Member of Congress.*